



## Oney's First "Cold Shot"

Submitted By: Deborah Goodman & OneSoc

Well SAR family, here comes our 1st article for the bulletin! I'm inspired to write this because I'm bursting with joy! HE DID IT! My little Oney did his 1st beginner cold shot problems and did them well!

On December 23, we met Elaine & "Ditto" out at our Conco rubble pile for a "quickie" training session before joining the Conco staff for a Christmas lunch. Elaine had a great motivational problem in mind, but we had to abort the idea as the all important "wind" just happened to be blowing in the wrong direction! So when Elaine asked me what I wanted to do with Oney, I stepped up to "bat" and boldly said, "a cold shot"! Well, I think she knew it was coming! You see, Oney and I have been diligently working with Elaine on the foundations of search work. The basics, one step at a time. And today I feel as though we've "reaped" the benefits of thorough preparation.

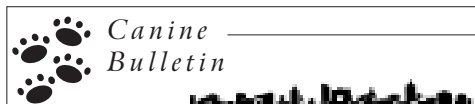
For the 1st problem, we had Elaine show Oney the bumper and say "Goodbye" to him while he was crated in my Yukon. Then she went into the rubble and ducked into a small spot in the middle of the pile. My 1st smile came when we were walking into the wind towards the pile and he had his nose in the air looking for her scent! When I released him to search, he entered the pile and worked an area behind her where we had contemplated hiding her. Then he came around - stuck his nose on her sleeve - took a big sniff - and barked!!! What a good dog! After some "victim play" Elaine did a motivational walk-away into the pile and he found her again. Then I hid from Ditto and she promptly found me in a flash. (Imagine that!) What a good dog! After some crate time (while the handlers were snarfing on a holiday lunch) we went for problem #2.

For the 2nd problem Elaine said "goodbye" to Oney in his crate and we buried her in a new hole, completely concealed with boards. As we approached the pile, my heart was pounding. I knew he would not be able to use his eyes to search. It was nose or nothing! Well folks, he did it! He got her scent, worked both ends of the hole and went to one end. He stuck his nose in, took a big sniff, and squeezed through the boards, got into the hole with her and barked like a big dog!!! WE ARE SOOOO PROUD! Words can't explain the joy I felt at that moment. When I heard him barking, it brought tears to my eyes! Little Oney found his "victim".

For those of you who have had this experience, you understand my joy! For those of you who are still working towards this goal, keep working! It is worth it!

This note wouldn't be complete without my sincere thanks to Elaine and Ditto. Because of you, we have learned so much. We are grateful.

Oney is EXHAUSTED and sleeping at my feet!



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## ***Evaluate Your Dog..... And Yourself***

*Submitted by Elaine Sawtell*

Schutzhund Obedience, Training in Drive, by Sheila Booth, has many insights that apply to disaster search training. The following is excerpted from that book:

### ***Evaluate Your Dog***

Whether your dog is young and just starting, or in need of retraining, be honest in your evaluation. Set realistic goals for performance.

Drives CAN be built (if they are present), but you need to recognize just where you are starting. As you work with your dog, honestly assess his components. Determine how much compromise may be necessary.

Consider his physical abilities and any limitations. Be aware of his inherent body sensitivity, emotional sensitivity, cooperation level and nerve strength, as well as any past experiences and training.

Having the right combination enhances the character and train ability of the IDEAL dog. But being realistic about the dog you are working is the key to better training.

### ***Evaluate Yourself***

While much depends on what your dog has to offer, how far he goes definitely depends on what YOU bring to the training sessions. How you motivate him and apply the techniques show in his performance. Your physical capabilities, temperament, timing, understanding and ability to read your dog all determine the success of your training.

Being realistic about your own potential is best. Whatever your aspirations and limitations, correct training requires patience, consistency and discipline.

You cannot be lazy. you MUST put in the time to get the results.

## ***TDX Lightning Strikes Again***

*Submitted by Elaine Sawtell*

Shortly after Dian and Tommy earned their TDX in December, Connie Millard and Portugese Water Dog Dutch successfully completed their TDX track in Kansas City. Distractions included a dead deer and a lake. Dutch is, after all, a WATER dog! Congratulations!

## ***Calendar Pinup!!***

*Submitted by Elaine Sawtell*

NETF-1 Type I K9 Louie has added another title to his name: Mr. December. Cleverly disguised as "Santa," he was selected to appear in the Trainers Choice 2000 Calendar. Lookin' good, Louie!!

### ***Training Logs Submission:***

*Mail or Drop off Logs to:*  
*Sandy Yost*  
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